

Star Island

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Sean D. Elliot photo

A Guide to Aid

by Sally Russell, Board Member & Financial Aid Committee Chair

One of the best initiatives Star Island has implemented over the past few years is the Star Island Financial Aid Program. This important program provides a path to Star Island for individuals and families who would not otherwise have a chance to attend one of the enriching programs of conversation, community, and spirituality. Last year, the Financial Aid Committee awarded aid to 65 families and individuals for a total of \$22,803 through this important effort.

The recipients of these awards often send a note of thanks to the committee after attending a conference, and these letters have literally

Star Island Financial Aid

Funds are available for individuals and families to attend a summer program on Star Island.

Explore your options at
StarIsland.org/Financial-Aid

brought tears to my eyes. I know how special Star is to my family, and this sentiment is repeated so strongly in these letters of thanks. Many say, when they can they will help others get to the island by contributing resources to the Financial Aid Program. This is what the Shoaler spirit is all about: We take care of each other and we give what we can to sustain Star Island.

Beyond Star's program, many conferences also provide scholarships. With the Star Island program and the individual conference scholarship programs, we help Shoalers both new and old come to renew themselves on our special island.

Participating in these efforts is just one of many reasons that I enjoy my stint as a Star Island Board member.

A Three Year Map

by Joe Watts, CEO

Star Island's new strategic map is now in place with community, economic, environment, and stewardship goals at its core. This map serves as a basis for our decision making and reinforces our mission and vision.

Any good map helps us to get where we want to go. Our strategic map, with our four goals and accompanying objectives, is an important means to an end that we believe directs us to a vibrant island with full conferences, an engaged community and a focus on innovative preservation of our traditions.

I encourage you to explore this map by visiting **StarIsland.org/Membership**. Our three year journey includes everyone in our Shoaler community, and we should all have this map in hand with a vibrant Star Island in our hearts.

Learn about summer 2014 discounts inside



400 Years of History

Voyage to Star Island and commemorate Capt. John Smith's mapping of the Isles of Shoals. Engaging historical activities and interactive exhibits are planned for three Wednesday excursions:

June 25, July 23, August 27

Learn more at StarIsland.org/JohnSmith

A Blueprint for Island Upgrades

by Kyle M. Belmont, Program & Outreach Coordinator

New siding, new paint, new cement. Starting this spring, Star Island starts many major upgrades to maintain our historic structures while enhancing the guest experience with safety in mind.

The most noticeable upgrade takes place in the Dining Hall. Old soundproofing panels will be dismantled, leading to a thorough cleaning and repainting of the entire room. Consultants will advise on a new soundproofing system. Funding for this project comes from individual donations and assistance due to weather damage.

The Oceanic Hotel will receive a facelift on its north and east walls with new siding and sheathing. A grant from New Hampshire's Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) makes this project possible. Replacing window trim and installing vinyl storm windows will also take place.

Two upgrades to the Chapel will increase occupancy to 91 persons from the current limit of 50. The increase is the result of a new sprinkler system and the replacement of the front door. The sprinkler system is recessed into the ceiling and will be minimally intrusive in the historic structure. Most of this project is funded from a grant from the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, NY.

Beyond structural work, Star Island will also experience a wireless boost this year. Funded by an anonymous \$40,000 donation, contractors will work to expand the current wireless network meant specifically as a benefit for conference lectures, workshops and activities.

"These upgrades show our commitment to maintaining an affordable, family-friendly destination through a focus on safety and sustainability," said Joe Watts, Star Island's CEO.

The work is set to begin in April as staff set out to Star Island and start the open up process. With the help of contractors, consultants, and a multitude of volunteers, Star Island will be set once again to welcome guests by mid-June.

"Every year we take on a number of tasks," said Jack Farrell, Island Manager & Director of Facilities, "and this is another year of quality projects that will have a lasting impact." ✈

2014 Facilities Projects:

- Repair pier damage from winter storms including the installation of 156 tons of granite rip rap for westerly side to mitigate large waves.
- Rebuild front porch in front of Gosport to meet safety codes.
- Collect data and final design for new wastewater treatment system to prepare for permitting and construction estimates.
- Expand collection of rain water and introduce filtration system to make cistern water safe for drinking.
- Install new roof on Cottage C and the Shack.
- Purchase and install new dishwashing machine and propane booster heater for the dishroom.
- Improve plumbing system in food service areas to maintain a healthy water system.
- Purchase a new 80 kW diesel generator to be compatible with solar energy system and to solely handle the island's energy needs.

Learn more

@StarIsland.org



Sean D. Elliot photo

A Storied Island

a narrative mapping of Star Island



The Pier

Flying kites is one of my favorite things to do on Star. I have found the best place to fly a kite is the wind tunnel next to Oceanic by the cemetery. One day I was flying my kite when the string broke and the kite ended up in the ocean just left of the pier. I grabbed the string, ran over and started pulling my kite out of the water. Just as my kite came up it was immediately followed by a seal. Her head came up and our eyes met. She held this position for longer than I thought possible. We were only a few yards apart. Every now and then she would dive down and come back up to continue this silent conversation. It was definitely an enchanted moment. 🐟

by Sunsue Fleming, Lifespan Religious Education

Untitled

*From here you can see
The tide turn like a door on its hinges:
We're just going out. Do you
Want anything from the ocean?*

by Robert Dunn, Portsmouth Poet Laureate '97

Lawrance

*I only know that I will
cally appear in a room
moment on, it becomes
So, Lawrance is a memory
For the past ten years
Gathering 1 and 2 are
ing together to weave
this room. 🐟*

by Karen Ellis, Star Ga



The South Rocks

As a child, we would sail out to Star Island from Kittery on the family cat boat, made by my father and named "The Flying Clod." There was always that moment when Star came into view, the grand Oceanic Hotel like a figurehead on the prow of the island. We would drop anchor in Gosport Harbor, row ashore for ice cream and explore the rock formations on the south end.

Now when I return, my favorite place to sit is still at the south end, with the safety of the hotel and my songwriters/poets family at my back. I love to stretch out on the sun-warmed granite, watch the clouds soar, listen to the gulls' cackling and laughter, the roar of the surf against the island's edge. There's something so wild on that tip of land, yet so protected – anchored by familiar buildings and family. Everyone feels like family on Star – for indeed we are – sharing that rock ten miles from shore, isolated, yet connected. ⚡

by Ellen M. Taylor, Writers in the Round

The Summer House

The Summer House has always been my muse. Since a conferee, I was drawing it, painting it, cutting it out of paper. The cacophony of the sunset would fade into the mainland and the Summer House stood respondent to our needs. Silhouetted, still, atop the little world we lived in whether it be for a day, a week, a summer, or a decade. We lived here, and it stood over us. It was my muse.

Over the years, my fellow Pelicans have been the benefactor of this daydream. To know me and Star is to have something of the Summer House - a painting on a scrap of cloth, a polaroid collage, a first baby onesie. And my weakness for this weathered structure is known and shared. A painted box from my sister, filled with island treasures. A clamshell painted with its likeness. We've crafted the Summer House in the Summer House. Winds creating new shapes as materials are found and lost. And while all these items stay the same, the receivers change and grow and put the items away, and forget. Until they go back to the Summer House. It's not the item they remember, it's the muse. The Summer House, ever steady, ever watching. Our fortress upon the rocks. ⚡

by Emily Cann, Pelican Reunion

*ite "LAWRANCE" on my basket supplies and tools and they magi-
om at the end of the porch on the first floor of Gosport. From that
res "the basket room" for those attending Star Gathering 1 and 2.
ystery to me, but I know where "the basket room" is!
s, basket weaving has been taught in Lawrance during Star
nd sometimes during Star Women. It is a joy to see all ages work-
e. Many friendships have been made while learning to weave in*

Former Pelicans

50% off room & board

Former Star Island staff are encouraged to register by June 1, 2014 to take advantage of this discount offering 50% off room and board.

Open to any former Pelicans who have never attended the full length of a conference.

For New Families

50% off for youth room & board

Youth attending the full length of a selected conference with families new to Star Island receive 50% off room and board.

DISCOUNTS

Attend one conference at the regular rate any time during the summer, and return the last week of August to receive 30% off room and board for one of the following conferences: Historic Star, Creativity Conference, Star Island Experience, and Meditation 2

Multi-Conference

30% off room and board

Children under six years of age receive free room and board during their stay.

Children Under 6

Free room and board

Complete details
@StarIsland.org/Discounts

Passages

Former Pelicans **Anne Muller** and **Jessica Barry** married on July 6, 2013 at the Seacoast Science Center with Star Island in view.

Malkiel Meir Silberbush was born on September 11, 2013 to Life on a Star attendees Oshrat and Daniel Silberbush.

George Brandenburg passed away on September 14, 2013. George was a long-time member of the Star Island Corporation and attended the International Affairs Conference.

Doris Armstrong passed away on October 28, 2013. Doris attended Life on a Star.

Sarah Hazel Swartzbaugh was born on September 30, 2013. Sarah is the granddaughter of Board member Sally Russell.

Henry Martin Mann was born on November 29, 2013 to former Pelican Hally McGehean and partner Troy Mann.

Van Baker passed away on December 11, 2013. Van had attended Life on a Star since the 1970s.

Dana Powsner passed away on December 23, 2013. Dana attended All Star 1.

Thomas Dudley passed away on December 26, 2013. Thomas was a friend of the Isles of Shoals and protecting its natural beauty.

Ferne Fogg passed away on January 17, 2014. Ferne attended the Laity Conference.

Priscilla Alden Jones Brooks passed away on January 21, 2014. Priscilla attended the Institute on Religion in an Age of Science with her husband George Brooks.

Emerson Cypress Kunz was born on January 26, 2014 to former Pelican Ben Kunz and Anna Mueller. Emerson is also the grandson of Board Vice President Gary Kunz.

Juniper Reed Etkin was born February 11, 2014 to former Pelican Becca Bailey and Derek Etkin.

Betty Sue Lentz passed away on February 14, 2014. Betty Sue attended All Star 1 and 2, and took on roles such as youth leader. Betty Sue's husband, **John Lentz**, passed away on March 16, 2014.

Willard Bouricius passed away on February 22, 2014. Willard attended All Star 1.

Matilda Ruth Dilger was born on February 28, 2014 to former Pelican Julia Brenner Dilger and Craig Dilger.

Betty Lau passed away on March 7, 2014. Betty attended the Institute on Religion in an Age of Science.

Steve Russian passed away on March 8, 2014. Steve attended All Star 1 & 2, and chaired All Star 2 in 1969.

Benjamin James Erard was born on March 14, 2014 to former Pelican James Erard and Amanda Dettmer.

Summer Programs Waiting for You



Natural History Week

June 21 - 28, 2014

Birder Eric Masterson leads this week focused on birding with attention to changes in climate, habitat, and food distribution.

A whale watch will also allow guests a unique way to explore the Shoals habitat.



International Affairs

July 19 - 26, 2014

Take an in-depth view of Pakistan's history, governmental functions, and international relationships during IA. Workshops and activities for adults are coupled with a vibrant youth program.

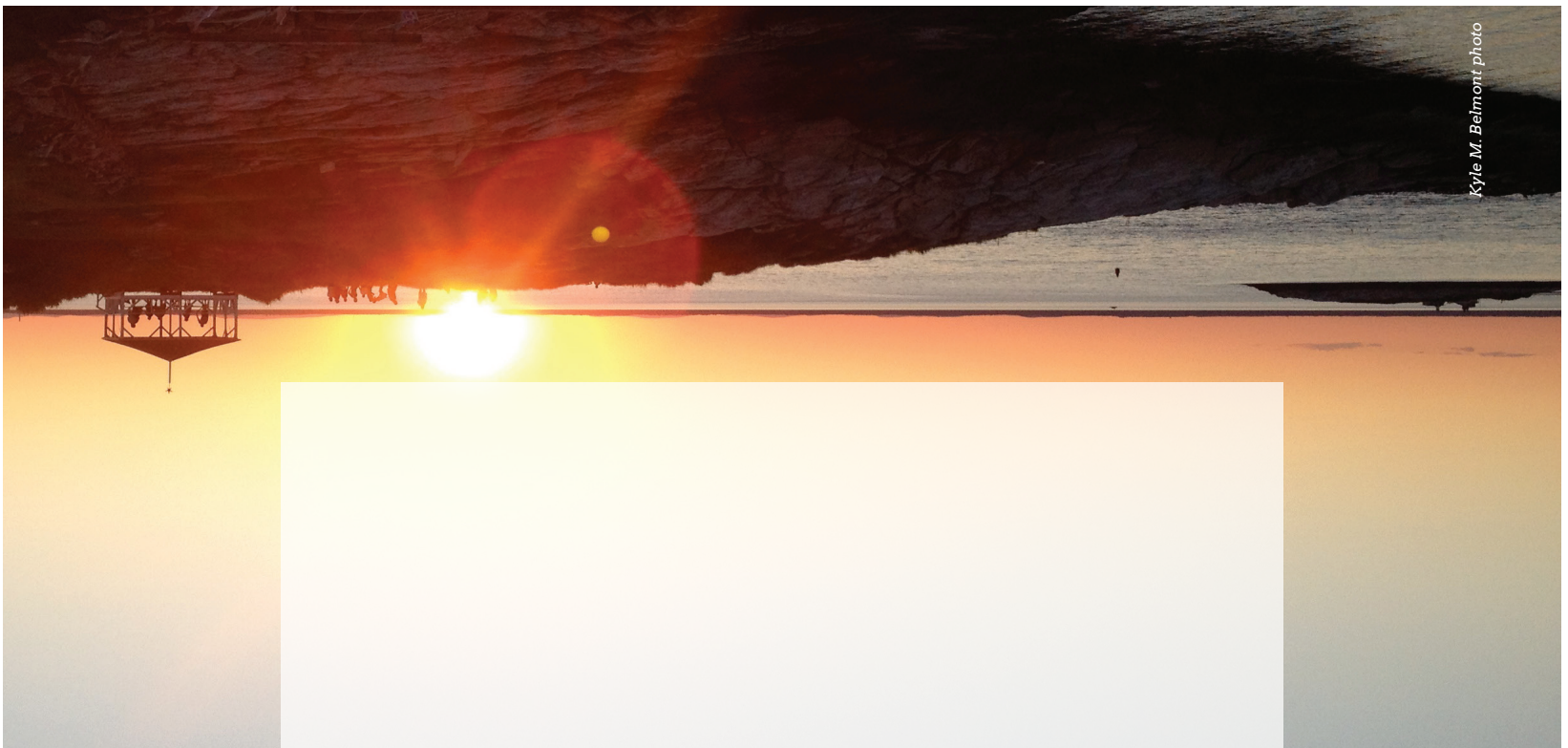


Historic Star

August 23 - 30, 2014

Commemorate the 400th Anniversary of Capt. John Smith's mapping of New England with interactive history workshops, lectures and programs that illustrate adventurous and dynamic pre-colonial life at the Shoals.

Visit StarIsland.org for information about all of our summer programs



Kyle M. Belmont photo

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